

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 OMB-01 MC-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 /072 W
----- 036235

P 250513Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4057

INFO SECDEF PRIORITY

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PEKING

CINCPAC

COMUSTDC TAIPEI

CDR 327 AD TAIPEI

CHMAAG TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0438

REF: A. HONG KONG 920 (240924Z JAN 75)

B. TAIPEI 3783 (150440Z JAN 74)

1. JIJI STORY REPORTED REF. A IS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT EXCEPT FOR REFERENCE TO A C-130 UNIT (THE LAST C-130'S BASED ON TAIWAN WERE REDEPLOYED IN DECEMBER 1973), AND CURRENT US MILITARY POPULATION FIGURE OF 4,000. CURRENT FIGURE IS APPROXIMATELY 4,500; WE WILL USE THAT FIGURE TO RESPOND TO PRESS QUERIES IN PLACE OF "APPROXIMATELY 5,000" FORMULA WHICH WE HAVE BEEN USING UNTIL NOW.

2. TEXT OF GROC ANNOUNCEMENT ON WITHDRAWAL OF F-4'S, ISSUED JUNE 17, 1974, IS CONTAINED REF. B. IT STATED MERELY THAT THE F-4'S "WILL BE SUCCESSIVELY WITHDRAWN FROM TAIWAN IN DUE TIME."

3. RECOMMENDED RESPONSES TO PRESS QUERIES ON F-4 WITHDRAWALS (REF. B) ARE STILL VALID, AND WE SUGGEST THEY BE USED NOW BY SPOKESMEN IF QUERIED. RECOMMENDED RESPONSE ON TIMING
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WAS THAT WITHDRAWAL WOULD BE COMPLETED "NEXT YEAR", I.E.

1975.

4. WE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH GROG TIMING AND NATURE OF
PUBLIC STATEMENT ON WITHDRAWAL OF LAST F-4 SQUADRON. WE
ASSUME THAT THEY WILL AGAIN WANT TO MAKE THE INITIAL
ANNOUNCEMENT, AS THEY DID LAST YEAR. IN THE MEANTIME,
STATEMENTS BY US SPOKESMEN SHOULD BE LIMITED TO RESPONSES
SUCH AS RECOMMENDED REF.B.
UNGER

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